23rd November 1955]

(b) the date when these were supplied last in the Kozhikode Government General(?) Hospital and the General Hospital at Madras?

THE HON. SRI A. B. SHETTY : (a) Certain hospital workers are provided with free clothing by Government. A statement showing the categories of staff in the Government hospitals to whom clothing is supplied free of cost, was laid on the table of the House—vide pages 80–81 of the Proceedings of the Legislature, dated the 14th May 1954.

(b) The date of last supply of uniforms to the last grade servants in the Government Headquarters Hospital, Kozhikode, was on 26th September 1952. The dates of last supply in respect of each class of servants in the Government General Hospital, Madras, are as follows :—

(1) Men nursing orderlies, men toties, lascars, peons and attendants—17th December 1953.

(2) Chauffers—10th January 1954.

(3) Women nursing orderlies, women toties and sweepers—16th December 1954.

(4) Servants of the Bernard Institute of Radiology—31st May 1954.

* 2763 Q.—SRI K. P. GOPALAN : Will the Hon. the Minister for Health be pleased to state with reference to the answer given to question No. 435 on the 17th December 1954, the decision taken by the Government in regard to the issue of uniforms to the workers of the Government Headquarters Hospital, Kozhikode?

THE HON. SRI A. B. SHETTY : The matter is under consideration of Government.

SRI T. C. NARAYANAN NAMBIAR : Last time when some of us visited certain hospitals in connexion with our work on the Estimates Committee, we found toties and other last grade servants dressed in old and worn-out rags. It was a most humiliating sight to see. May I know whether the Hon. Minister believes that poor toties who get a very meagre wage can afford to purchase dress? The last supply of the uniform was made in 1952, that is three years ago. So will the Government see that these poor employees at least are given uniform every year and in time?

THE HON. SRI A. B. SHETTY : I am sorry there has been so much delay. Indents are placed by the heads of medical institutions with the Controller of Stationery and Printing, Madras. He has been given reminders in this matter. The Director of Medical Services is considering also the question of allowing the heads of institutions to purchase cloth and get it stitched.

SRI K. P. GOPALAN : Are the Government aware that for the past three years the hospital employees have not got their dress? 9 30 a.m. Are the Government also aware that representations were made to the Director of Medical Services and to the Hon. Minister also in

the form of petitions and memoranda for this purpose? Is it a fact that the Government never took care to instruct the Director of Medical Services to issue the uniform to the hospital employees. Is it the policy of the Government that the hospital employees should work without clean and good dress? Will the Hon. Minister, taking all these into consideration, give an assurance in this House that as early as possible—within one week—he will issue instructions to the Director of Medical Services to issue the dress? Or, will he give an assurance that he will grant a uniform allowance to the employees so that they can stitch their own dress? I want a definite answer to my question.

SRI S. DAIVASIGAMONEY : On a point of order, Sir. Can an hon. Member point his finger towards the Hon. Minister? (Laughter.)

THE HON. SRI A. B. SHETTY : The hon. Member is assuming a threatening gesture but he is by nature very peaceful. Now, I am well aware that there is a lot of dissatisfaction in this matter and, as I have already said, the Government regret very much the inordinate delay that has occurred. The best possible steps would be taken to see that such delays are avoided in future.

DR. U. KRISHNA RAO : In view of the fact that there is no relationship between stationery and dress, will the Hon. Minister think of devising ways by which the dress can be ordered either by the Deans or by the District Medical Officers and stitched independent of the Controller of Stationery?

THE HON. SRI A. B. SHETTY : That was what I said. The Director of Medical Services is already considering the proposal of allowing the Deans and Superintendents of hospitals to purchase the cloth and get the uniform stitched.

SRI V. R. KRISHNA AYYAR : From the facts given by the Hon. Minister it is found that some of the clothing was supplied as early as 1952. May I know whether the texture has been specially made so that age cannot wither nor customs stale? May I also know whether it is the Health Minister's excessive faith in sun bath that he wants the maximum anatomy of these hospital servants by being exposed by tattered clothing as the hon. Member Sri Narayanan Nambiar personally saw?

THE HON. SRI A. B. SHETTY : I am very pleased to hear the very ornamental language used by the hon. Member. He is very good at this.

SRI S. RAMALINGAM : The Hon. Minister has himself admitted that inordinate delay has occurred. Will he consider the question of giving dress allowance as is given to the nurses?

THE HON. SRI A. B. SHETTY : Dress allowance, if given is likely to be misused.

23rd November 1955]

SRI M. NARAYANA KURUP : Is it a fact that Ministers attend to the portfolios which were with them only when they go out of office, as is evidenced by the question of one of the hon. Members?

SRI T. ANANTA PAI : The Government have regretfully admitted that there has been considerable delay in the supply of dress to hospital servants. Will he institute an inquiry to find out the reasons for this delay and take necessary action against those responsible for this delay so that these difficulties may not arise in future?

THE HON. SRI A. B. SHETTY : An inquiry will be made.

DR. U. KRISHNA RAO : I do not know if the hon. Member Sri Narayana Kurup refers to me. I presume he does. May I remind him that I was not in charge of Public Health Department?

SRI M. NARAYANA KURUP : I referred to him and I withdraw my remarks which were made under a misapprehension.

Irrigation works in Udayarpalayam taluk

* 2764 *Q.*—SRI K. R. VISWANATHAN : Will the Hon. the Minister for Public Works be pleased to state—

(*a*) the names of major irrigation works sanctioned for renovation during the years 1953–54 and 1954–55 in the estate villages taken over by Government in Udayarpalayam taluk; and

(*b*) the names of major irrigation tank renovation works which have been dropped as unremunerative during the same period?

THE HON. SRI R. SHANMUGA RAJESWARA SETHUPATHI : (*a*) & (*b*) The answer is in the negative.

House-sites for Harijans

* 2765 *Q.*—SRI P. G. MANICKAM : Will the Hon. the Minister for Religious Endowments and Transport be pleased to state with reference to the answer given to question No. 454 on 20th December 1954, the progress made in the acquisition of private lands for assignment as house-sites to Harijans in the Coimbatore district?

THE HON. SRI B. PARAMESWARAN : In 16 cases proceedings for acquisition have been initiated and they are in different stages. Action will also be taken to acquire lands in other cases if the Harijans are found to have any trouble with the owners of sites and if the need for acquisition is established.

SRI P. G. MANICKAM : கனம் சபாநாயகர் அவர்களே, 184 சேரிகளில் ஹரிஜனங்கள் ஜாதி ஹிந்துக்களுடைய நிலங்களில் குடியிருந்து கொண்டு வருகிறுர்கள். கவர்ன்மெண்ட் கொடுத்த ஒரு கணக்கிலிருந்தே அந்த இடங்களில் அவர்கள் 20 அல்லது 30 வருஷங்களாக குடியிருந்து வருவதாகத் தெரியவருகிறது. அதனுல் அந்த நிலங்களே அவர்களுக்கே ஆர்ஜிதம் செய்து கொடுக்கக்கூடாதா ? ஒரு நிலத்தில் 12 வருஷங்கள்